

REMARKS

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 20, 24, and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hueting et al. (WO/01/69684 A2) in view of Nakamura (JP 2000-049245).

Applicant proposes amendment to claim 1 to clarify that the first depression is the only depression of the field effect transistor in which the control region is arranged, as well as to show that the first depression is a straight trench. Support for this feature may be found in Figure 4, which shows straight trench 72 with length L1. Hueting, in contrast, shows a comb shaped trench (see Fig. 2).

In addition, Hueting relates to transistors for high currents. See Hueting, page 7, lines 31-32 ("typically the device may comprise many thousands of these parallel cells between the electrodes 33 and 34"). In contrast, switching transistors on word lines of memories, such as that of Nakamura, switch currents that are at least one order of magnitude smaller than the switching current of the transistor disclosed in Hueting. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to combine Hueting and Nakamura.

Further, Applicant submits that the asserted combinations do not disclose all the features of claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10, 20, 24, 26-28, as amended, and requests entry of the proposed amendment and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 9 and 25, which each depend from claim 1, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hueting et al. (WO/01/69684 A2) and Nakamura (JP 2000-049245), and further in view of Degawa et al. (EP 0872895).

Claims 9 and 25 each ultimately depend from claim 1. As noted above, Hueting does not disclose all the features of claim 1. Degawa does not cure this deficiency. Degawa is relied to disclose a depression between the field-effect transistor and an adjacent electronic component that has a larger depth than the depression for the

control region, as well as comparable widths between two depressions of the field-effect transistor. The combination of Huetting, Degawa, and Nakamura does not disclose all the features of claim 1, or the claims that depend from claim 1, including claims 9 and 25.

For the reasons discussed above, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 9 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

CONCLUSION

Applicant amends claims 1 and 5, and cancels claims 4 and 6. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are patentable. Accordingly, Applicant requests entry of the proposed amendments, withdrawal of the Final Rejection and issuance of a Notice of Allowance in the present case. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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